

Data Processing: Survey questionnaires arrive daily, and in peak periods, by the hundreds. This information must be sorted, checked, classified, summarized and interpreted as accurately and promptly as possible. These data processing functions have been accomplished mainly using a local area network computer system and the USDA National Information Technology Center in Kansas City. Through the use of the local area network, most of the survey data is entered into the computer system at the time of the interview. This saves time by not having to reenter the data, eliminates the use of paper questionnaires, and increases the security of the data. After the data is collected, it is sent by telephone communications to the mainframe for further processing.

State Projects: In addition to those reports required by federal regulations, several projects are being conducted at the state's request or with state support. Established projects include major crop and livestock county estimates, the State Farm Census, and compiling the Annual Bulletin of agricultural statistics.

Information Dissemination: In addition to the annual statistics bulletin, our office issues regular timely press releases, weekly weather crop reports, and the monthly Mountain State Reporter (a summary of the current month's press releases and previously unreleased data). These releases are available on the Internet by accessing the West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service homepage, and are sent by e-mail to users with Internet access. The releases are also available free of charge and are mailed to survey respondents, media, and qualified organizations; and by subscription to other interested groups or individuals. Radio and press interviews and television presentations are made to disseminate agricultural information. In addition, presentations are made to various agricultural groups to explain our programs and estimates.

Comments on 2000 West Virginia Agriculture: There were 20,500 farms in West Virginia in 2000, with 3.6 million acres of estimated land in farms. The average farm operated was 176 acres. West Virginia gross farm income during 2000 totaled \$504.3 million. Net farm income for West Virginia farmers totaled \$41.5 million.

WEST VIRGINIA PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE

COMMODITY	PRODUCTION			PRICE		VALUE OF PRODUCTION	
	UNIT	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Thousand Units			Dollars		Thousand Dollars	
ALL HAY	TONS	794	1,315	67.00	62.50	53,120	82,315
APPLES ^{1/}	LBS.	135,000	88,000	.093	.102	12,505	8,949
BROILERS	LBS.	358,000	365,200	.370	.340	132,460	124,168
CATTLE ^{2/}	LBS.	121,639	125,367	.506	.623	61,573	78,157
CORN GRAIN	BU.	1,300	4,550	2.41	1.95	3,133	8,873
EGGS	DZ.	19,750	20,750	1.27	1.46	25,093	30,307
HOGS ^{2/}	LBS.	4,161	3,354	.302	.380	1,274	1,275
HONEY	LBS.	234	378	1.09	1.22	255	461
MILK	LBS.	275,000	265,000	.152	.133	41,800	35,245
PEACHES ^{1/}	LBS.	12,300	7,000	.302	.256	3,716	1,795
SHEEP ^{2/}	LBS.	3,209	3,340	.670	.788	2,150	2,632
SOYBEANS	BU.	NA	705	NA	4.60	NA	3,243
TOBACCO	LBS.	2,160	1,560	1,900	1,901	4,104	2,966
TROUT ^{3/}	LBS.	401	363	1.73	1.68	695	611
TURKEYS	LBS.	95,400	88,970	.430	.430	41,022	38,257
WHEAT	BU.	399	549	2.23	1.90	890	1,043

^{1/} Utilized production. ^{2/} Price is derived.

^{3/} Trout sales instead of value of production. Excludes eggs.